Association in Sri Lanka Assisting Pakistan over Kashmir Issue

218. SHRI S. MADAVAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the activities of an association in Sri Lanka supporting Pakistan and calling for freedom to Kashmir from India;

(b) whether it is a fact that some passengers arrived from Colombo recently had Afghan Passports with a forged visa for entry into India; and

(c) what steps are being taken to prevent infiltration of Pakistan trained militants from Sri Lanka into India for subversive activities?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware of reports that the Sri Lanka-Pakistan Friendship Association in Sri Lanka recently passed a resolution supporting Pakistan Government's call to observe a strike on February 5, 1994 on the Kashmir issue.

(b) Yes, Sir. Seven Afghan nationals holding forged Indian visas arrived at Madras from Colombo recently. The immigration authorities at Madras airport detected the forged visas and deported these persons back to Colombo.

(c) The Government exercises full vigilance and takes all necessary precautions to prevent any such infiltration.

Availability of Gas from Off-Shore Tapti Structure

*219. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the latest assessment of the availability of gas from off-shore Tapti structure is such that both the requirement in meeting the shortfall at Hazira and for the proposed power plant at Pipavav can be met;

(b) whether it is cheaper to bring the Tapti gas to be closed Landfall point of Saurashtra and then carry the gas on land to Hazira; and

(c) by when Government of India will take a final decision in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) The entire gas produced in the Mid Tapti and South Tapti fields required to be taken to Hazira to meet the existing commitments.

(b) The developers of the fields will decide the pipeline route in consultation with the Government after taking into account the comparative costs of alternative pipeline alignments.

(c) The decision to bring the gas to Hazira has been taken.

पान मसालों का स्वास्थ्य के लिए हानिकारक होना

*220. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या "पान पराग" और ऐसे अन्य मसालों को स्वास्थ्य के लिये हानिकारक पाया गया है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो देश में ऐसे उत्पादों की बिक्री रोकने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री (श्री बी० शंकरानंद) : (क) भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान अनुसंधान परिषद ने सूचित किया है कि पान मसाला में उत्परिवर्तजनता होती है ।

(ख) खाद्य अपमिश्रण निवारण नियम, 1955 के अन्तर्गत पान-मसाला के प्रत्येक पैकेट पर निम्नलिखित चेतावनी देना आवश्यक है: